

also reported in the paper, the effect of the amphoteric surfactants on sodium cromoglycate uptake was not suggested or tested.

The present work surprisingly shows that a composition, for example an oil-in-water emulsion, comprising an amphoteric surfactant, alkoxylated cetyl alcohol and a polar drug, for example sodium cromoglycate, may be formed. The composition has been found to be stable, and an effective amount of the drug may penetrate the skin of a patient when the formulation is applied topically. The composition may be useful in the treatment of skin disease such as atopic dermatitis.

The composition of the present invention avoids anionic or cationic substances and provides a stable formulation, for example a stable emulsion, comprising the polar substance sodium cromoglycate. The polarity of sodium cromoglycate may limit the stability of known emulsions. The amphoteric surfactant may assist in overcoming this problem and may also assist the skin penetration of the sodium cromoglycate. Use of alkoxylated cetyl alcohol and an amphoteric surfactant in combination may be particularly beneficial in producing a stable and effective formulation, for example an emulsion, comprising a polar drug, for example sodium cromoglycate or nedocromil sodium.

Thus, a first aspect of the invention is a composition comprising an amphoteric surfactant, an alkoxylated cetyl alcohol and a polar drug.

The composition may comprise an aqueous phase and an oil phase. It may be an emulsion or may be used in the manufacture of an emulsion. It may, for example, form or be comprised in the aqueous phase of an

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emulsion. It is preferred that the emulsion is an oil-in-water emulsion but it will be appreciated that the emulsion may alternatively be a water-in-oil emulsion.

- 5 A "polar drug" is a compound which may be used as an active ingredient in a medicament that is water-soluble and ionises on solution in distilled water at 25 °C. A "water-soluble" compound may be dissolved in distilled water at 25 °C at a ratio of compound to water (weight to volume, or volume to volume if the compound is a liquid) of at least 1 to 10000, 1  
10 to 1000, 1 to 100, 1 to 30, 1 to 10, 1 to 1 or 1 to less than 1. It is preferred that the polar drug comprises an anionic polar drug, for example a chromone, such as nedocromil sodium or sodium cromoglycate. Most preferably, the drug comprises sodium cromoglycate.
- 15 Other examples of polar drugs that may be suitable include polar anti-inflammatory or antirheumatic agents, for example ibuprofen; antibacterial agents, for example agents that may be useful in the treatment of acne (for example clindomycin sodium phosphate or tetracycline); a hormone, for example an oestrogen; a polar analgesic, for example fentanyl; a polar  
20 motion-sickness treatment molecule, for example scopolamine or hyoscine; an antihypertensive, for example clonidine; a vasodilator or coronary vasodilator, for example nitroglycerine; or nicotine.

Further preferred examples of suitable polar drugs include a polar  
25 corticosteroid formulation, for example a salt of an esterified corticosteroid, for example a salt of a phosphate or succinate ester. Such polar formulations may be soluble in water and are the form commonly used for injections or solutions. Suitable salts of esters of corticosteroids include betamethasone sodium phosphate, dexamethasone sodium

phosphate, hydrocortisone sodium phosphate, hydrocortisone sodium succinate, methylprednisolone sodium succinate and prednisolone sodium succinate.

- 5 The drug may be useful in treating skin disease or may be a drug that is useful when administered transdermally.

The drug, for example sodium cromoglycate, may constitute from 0.01 to 20% w/v, preferably 0.1 to 20% w/v, still more preferably 1 to 10% w/v, 10 yet more preferably about 7.5% w/v, most preferably about 4% w/v of the composition, for example the emulsion. When the polar drug comprises a corticosteroid, the corticosteroid may preferably constitute 0.01 to 10% w/v, preferably from 0.1 to 10% w/v, most preferably about 0.25 or 0.5% w/v of the composition, for example the emulsion.

15 It will be appreciated that it is preferred that the above proportions are present in a composition of the invention that is a formulation, for example an emulsion, as may be administered to a patient, for example applied to the skin of the patient. It will further be appreciated that a 20 composition of the invention may be useful in preparing a formulation, for example an emulsion, suitable for administration to a patient, for example application to the skin of a patient; for example, the composition may form the aqueous phase of the emulsion, or it may be a concentrate used in the preparation of the aqueous phase of the emulsion, as known to those skilled in the art. Thus, it will be appreciated that in these examples of 25 compositions of the invention, it may be preferred that the proportion of the composition that is the polar drug may be from about 1.5 to about 10 times greater than that given above.

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It will be appreciated that the composition, for example emulsion, may comprise more than one polar drug. Thus, for example, a preferred composition, for example emulsion, of the invention may comprise a chromone, such as nedocromil sodium or sodium cromoglycate, and a corticosteroid. The corticosteroid may constitute 0.01 to 10% w/v, preferably from 0.1 to 10% w/v, most preferably about 0.25 or 0.5% w/v of the emulsion or other formulation as administered to a patient, as above. Preferences for the corticosteroid are as given above; most preferably it is betamethasone sodium phosphate.

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It is preferred that an emulsion is stable. By this is meant that separation of the oil and water phases is not detectable by visual inspection after a period of at least one day, preferably one week, still more preferably one month, yet more preferably six months or a year after manufacture when stored at 15 °C to 30 °C. Storage may be at, for example, 22 °C.

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It will be appreciated that the composition, for example emulsion, may be presented as a lotion or as a foam, as known to those skilled in the art.

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The term "amphoteric surfactant" is well known to those skilled in the art. Such surfactants (which may also be known as ampholytic surfactants) possess at least one anionic group and at least one cationic group, and can therefore have anionic, non-ionic or cationic properties depending on the pH. If the isoelectric point of the molecule occurs at pH7, the molecule is said to be balanced. Amphoteric surfactants may have detergent and disinfectant properties. Balanced amphoteric surfactants may be particularly non-irritant to the eyes and skin.

Amphoteric surfactants are characterised by their ability to move between having a cationic or anionic charge dependent upon pH. In the presence of highly polar molecules such as sodium cromoglycate in a weak acid solution (for example, pH6), these surfactants may be compatible with the changes to charges around the molecule as it disassociates or associates (in the case of sodium cromoglycate, between the positive sodium and negative cromoglycate elements), providing a consistent medium for surface wetting and skin penetration.

It will be appreciated that the composition, for example emulsion, should not contain ingredients that may cause irritation to the skin, even on prolonged use. Compounds to which sensitisation may occur should be avoided. Thus, balanced amphoteric surfactants may be preferred.

The pH of skin is about 4.5. In order to avoid irritation to the skin, a pH that is slightly acidic, ie to the acid side of neutral, is preferred, for example a pH between about 4.5 and about 7.0. For example, the emulsion may be manufactured to a pH of 6.0, for example using sodium dihydrogen orthophosphate as the buffer agent.

Examples of amphoteric surfactants include aminocarboxylic acids, aminopropionic acid derivatives, imidazoline derivatives, dodicin, pendecamaine or long-chain betaines, Nikkol AM101® (2-alkyl-N-carboxymethyl-N-hydroxyethyl imidazolinium betaine), Nikkol AM310® (lauryldimethylaminoacetic acid betaine), Nissan Anon #300 (12 w/v% alkyldiaminoethylglycine hydrochloride, 3 w/v% alkyldiethylene-triaminoglycole hydrochloride; Inui Shouji Co, ADG), C31G (a mixture of alkyl betaines and alkyl amine oxides), N-tetradecyl-N,N-dimethyl-3-ammonio-1-propanesulfonate) or cocamidopropyl betaine. Any of these

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may be used, but cocamidopropyl betaine may not be preferred as instances of allergy to this compound, when used in shampoo, have been reported (De Groot *et al* (1995) *Contact Dermatitis* 33(6), 419-422).

- 5 It will be appreciated that an amphoteric surfactant may be supplied (as an "amphoteric surfactant" or amphoteric surfactant preparation) packaged or compounded with other substances by the manufacturer, and that references to an amphoteric surfactant encompass an amphoteric surfactant alone and a preparation supplied as an amphoteric surfactant by the  
10 manufacturer. It is preferred that the amphoteric surfactant is a carboxylated imidazoline derivative. It is particularly preferred that the amphoteric surfactant comprises disodium coacoamphodiacetate. It is still more preferred that the disodium coacoamphodiacetate is packaged or compounded with lauryl sulphate and hexylene glycol, as is known to  
15 those skilled in the art.

It is particularly preferred that the amphoteric surfactant preparation has the following composition:

20	disodium coacoamphodiacetate	5 to 30% w/w, for example 14%w/w
	sodium lauryl sulphate	2 to 20% w/w, for example 12.5%w/w
	hexylene glycol	3 to 20% w/w, for example 7%w/w
	sodium chloride	0.25 to 15% w/w, for example 3.9%w/w
	lauryl alcohol	0.1 to 5% w/w, for example 1.0%w/w
25	hydrochloric acid	0.1 to 5% w/w, for example 1.0%w/w
	sodium sulphate	0.025 to 2.5% w/w, for example 0.25%w/w
	formadehyde	0.003 to 1% w/w, for example 0.03%w/w
	water	to 100%w/w

Such a preparation may be Miracare 2MCA/E™, supplied by Rhône-Poulenc Chemicals, Poleacre Lane, Woodley, Stockport, Cheshire SK6 1PQ. This preparation is very well tolerated on skin. As a strong surfactant, it may rapidly "wet-out" the skin, penetrating the skin's natural oily barrier and assisting the trans-dermal passage of the sodium cromoglycate or other polar drug. The action of breaking down the oils in the skin also enhances skin hydration from the water present in the emulsion.

- 10 The amphoteric surfactant may be incorporated in the water phase of an oil-in-water emulsion that is a preferred embodiment of the invention. This may assist skin penetration by the polar drug, for example sodium cromoglycate, and may hold the emulsion stable. In the absence of an amphoteric surfactant, the emulsion may break down over a period of 24 hours into two phases, ie the oils will separate and float to the surface. The amphoteric surfactant may constitute from 0.05 to 20% weight to volume (w/v) of the emulsion, preferably 0.1% to 10% w/v, still more preferably 1 to 5% w/v, most preferably about 2% w/v of the emulsion. It will be appreciated that the above proportions may refer to an amphoteric surfactant alone or to an amphoteric surfactant preparation, as described above, for example to a preparation comprising disodium coacoamphodiacetate, laurylsulphate and hexylene glycol, such as Miracare 2MCA/E™. Preferably, the proportions refer to an amphoteric surfactant preparation. The amphoteric surfactant component may 20 constitute from 0.007 to 2.8% w/v, 0.014 to 1.4% w/v, 0.14 to 0.7% w/v 25 or most preferably 0.28% w/v of the emulsion.

It will be appreciated that when determining the percentage weight to volume of an ingredient of the composition, for example emulsion, or a

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solute to solvent, the weight in grams of the ingredient is compared with the volume in millilitres (ml) of the prepared composition, for example emulsion.

- 5 The term alkoxylated cetyl alcohol encompasses polypropoxylated cetyl alcohol, the chemical description given for Procetyl AWS in *Gardner's Chemical Synonyms and Trade Names*, ninth edition. Alkoxylated cetyl alcohol may be obtained from Croda Chemicals Ltd, Cowick Hall, Snaith, Goole, North Humberside, DN14 9AA. It is marketed as "Procetyl
- 10 AWS". The alkoxylated cetyl alcohol may be useful for its water soluble surface active emollient properties. It may also act as an emulsifying and solubilising agent and imparts a silky feel to the skin.

- 15 The alkoxylated cetyl alcohol may constitute from 0.1 to 20% w/v, preferably from 0.1 to 10% w/v, still more preferably from 0.5 to 4% w/v of the emulsion and most preferably 1% w/v of the emulsion.

It will be appreciated that it is preferred that the above proportions may be present in a composition of the invention that is a formulation (that is not necessarily an emulsion) that may be administered to a patient, for example applied to the skin of the patient. It will further be appreciated that a composition of the invention may be useful in preparing a formulation, for example an emulsion, suitable for administration to a patient, for example application to the skin of a patient; for example, the composition may form the aqueous phase of the emulsion, or it may be a concentrate used in the preparation of the aqueous phase of the emulsion, as known to those skilled in the art. Thus, it will be appreciated that in these examples of compositions of the invention, it may be preferred that the proportion of the composition that is the alkoxylated cetyl alcohol or

amphoteric surfactant may be from about 1.5 to about 10 times greater than those given above.

It will be appreciated that the critical ingredients of the formulation, for example the emulsion, are the amphoteric surfactant, alkoxylated cetyl alcohol and the drug component (for example, sodium cromoglycate). Further ingredients may include water and an oil phase. Suitable components of the oil phase will be known to those skilled in the art, and the following description is not limiting.

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It is preferred that the components of an emulsion are chosen such that the emulsion is acceptable to a patient using it. For example, it should not be too greasy. It is preferred that the emulsion has an appropriate viscosity for spreading smoothly over the skin with low friction over areas of broken or sensitive skin. Thus, the emulsion may not have the appearance of a solid at 22°C or at 37°C. It is preferred that the emulsion may have a viscosity of between about 10, 20, 100, 200 or preferably 400 to 20,000 centipoise or mPas at 22°C or 37°C. It is further preferred that the emulsion has a viscosity between about 1400 to 2600 centipoise, preferably between about 2000 to 2600 centipoise, when measured at a maximum shear rate of 210sec<sup>-1</sup> and between about 2300 to 3800 centipoise, preferably between about 3000 to 3800 centipoise, when measured at maximum shear rate of 125sec<sup>-1</sup>. Methods of measuring viscosity are well known to those skilled in the art and are described, for example, in Chapter 22 of *Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences* 15th Ed, Mac Publishing. For comparison, the viscosity of olive oil is about 138 mPas at 10°C and about 36 mPas at 40°C. The emulsion may appear as a watery lotion, which may be applied via a bottle dispenser. More preferably, the emulsion may appear as a cream which at 20°C remains in

an open container when the container is inverted, and may be dispensed using a hand pump attached to a bottle, such as may be used for dispensing liquid hand soap. Reference 18 sets out some desirable characteristics of preparations for treating atopic dermatitis.

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The emulsion may appear as a foam which may be applied *via* a pressurised dispenser. When presented as a foam, it may be desirable for the emulsion to be more dilute with regard to excipients and the same or more concentrated with regard to the polar drug than an emulsion presented as a lotion, as described above. This may reduce the viscosity of the emulsion and aid the dispensing of the foam.

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The oil phase may comprise liquid paraffins, white soft paraffin, glycerol monostearate, non-ionic emulsifying wax or a lipophilic non-ionic surfactant (for example sorbitan tristearate), benzyl alcohol and/or isopropyl myristate. These terms are well known to those skilled in the art. Isopropyl myristate is an example of an emollient. Glycerol monostearate is an example of an emulsifying agent and may also act as an emollient. Benzyl alcohol is an example of a preservative and a mild local anaesthetic. The non-ionic emulsifying wax may be Polawax NF (a blend of higher fatty alcohols and polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid ester, in particular a blend of cetostearyl alcohol and sorbitan tristearate). Non-ionic emulsifying wax may be useful in the preparation of emulsions comprising polar substances. A lipophilic non-ionic surfactant, for example sorbitan tristearate, may be used as an alternative to or in addition to a non-ionic emulsifying wax. Liquid paraffins and isopropyl myristate may act as emollients and form an occlusive film on the skin as water dries away from the emulsion. This film may assist in keeping the skin hydrated from the water applied in the emulsion.

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Liquid paraffins may provide from 0.1% to 30% w/v, preferably 1% to 20% w/v, still more preferably 5% to 15% w/v and most preferably about 10% w/v of the emulsion.

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White soft paraffin may provide from 0.1% to 30% w/v, preferably 1% to 20% w/v, still more preferably 2% to 15% w/v and most preferably about 5% w/v of the emulsion.

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Glycerol monostearate may provide from 0.1 to 10% w/v, preferably 0.5% to 5% w/v, still more preferably 1% to 3% w/v, most preferably 2% w/v of the emulsion.

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The nonionic emulsifying wax, for example Polawax NF, or lipophilic non-ionic surfactant, for example sorbitan tristearate, may provide from 0.1 to 15% w/v, preferably 0.5 to 5% w/v, still more preferably about 2% w/v of the emulsion. It is preferred that a lipophilic non-ionic surfactant, for example sorbitan tristearate, provides from 0.5 to 5% w/v of the emulsion or that the nonionic emulsifying wax, for example Polawax NF, provides from 2 to 5% w/v. It will be appreciated that if the nonionic emulsifying wax, for example Polawax NF provides more than about 5% of the emulsion that the resulting emulsion may be too viscous to spread easily on the skin.

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Isopropyl myristate may provide from 0.1 to 10% w/v, preferably 0.5 to 5% w/v, still more preferably about 2% w/v of the emulsion.

Benzyl alcohol may provide from 0.001 to 5% w/v, preferably from 0.01 to 1.0% w/v, still more preferably about 0.2% w/v of the emulsion.

The aqueous phase comprises water and the drug. It may further comprise one or more preservatives. Disodium edetate (EDTA) and Triclosan (5-chloro-2(2,4-dichlorophenoxy)phenol) are suitable compounds with preservative properties. The drug may be in solution in the aqueous phase. EDTA may also contribute to the stability of the formulation by forming complexes with any heavy metal ions. Triclosan may have a residual antibacterial effect on the skin and may assist with limiting any damage at an eczema site arising from bacterial colonisation.

10 The anti-infective effect of the preservative, for example Triclosan and/or benzyl alcohol may also serve to prevent potential infection from the prolonged rubbing process involved during administration.

Disodium edetate may provide from 0.001 to 5% w/v, preferably 0.01 to 15 1% w/v, still more preferably about 1% w/v of the emulsion.

Triclosan (5-chloro-2(2,4-dichlorophenoxy) phenol) may provide from 0.001% to 5% w/v, preferably 0.01% to 1.0% w/v, still more preferably about 0.2% w/v of the emulsion.

20 The emulsion may consist essentially of the components listed below, preferably in substantially the quantities listed below. It is preferred that the drug is sodium cromoglycate or nedocromil sodium, most preferably sodium cromoglycate.

25 sorbitan tristearate or non-ionic emulsifying wax (Polawax NF) 2.0%  
glycerol monostearate 2.0%  
light liquid paraffin 10.0%  
white soft paraffin 5.0%

isopropyl myristate 3.0%

drug 7.5%

disodium edetate 0.1%

amphoteric surfactant 2.0% (for example disodium coacamphodiacetate,

5 which may be compounded with lauryl sulphate and hexylene glycol, for example Miracare 2MCA/E™)

alkoxylated cetyl alcohol 1.0%

triclosan 0.2%

benzyl alcohol 0.2%

10 purified water 67.0%

Sorbitan tristearate may be obtained under the name Crill 35™ from Croda Chemicals Limited, Cowick Hall, Snaith, Goole, North Humberside DN14 9AA. Polawax NF may also be obtained from Croda Chemicals Limited. It is preferred that Polawax NF is used in preference to sorbitan tristearate (Crill 35™).

Alternatively, the drug, for example sodium cromoglycate, may be present at 4.0% w/v (or 2% or 8% w/v, for example) and purified water at 70.5% (or 72.5% or 66.5%, for example).

The pH of the emulsion may be adjusted to 6.0 using sodium dihydrogen orthophosphate.

25 The emulsion may appear as a cream or a watery lotion. The lotion may be rubbed into the affected skin for about 3 to 5 minutes. During this process, the lotion may first go white, then clear and then disappear into the skin, leaving a protective barrier that may help to stop the skin drying out.

An emulsion of the invention may be prepared by methods well known to those skilled in the art. For example, it may be prepared by heating the oils to about 70 °C, then adding them steadily to the water phase (also at 5 or about 70 °C) with good stirring, and then allowing the emulsion to cool.

Once an emulsion has been formed, further water may be added with stirring if desired, for example in preparing a formulation suitable for 10 delivery as a foam. A suitable formulation for delivery as a foam may be prepared by diluting an emulsion essentially as described above by the addition of one part water to two parts emulsion. It will be appreciated that if an emulsion is to be diluted before application to the skin that it may be preferred that the concentration of the drug, for example sodium cromoglycate, in the emulsion may be calculated such that the desired 15 concentration, for example 4%, is achieved in the diluted formulation. It will be appreciated that it is preferred that the emulsion is formed with the composition that it is intended to apply to the skin, for example with the additional water referred to above *ab initio* so that dilution is not 20 necessary.

A suitable formulation for delivery as a foam may consist essentially of the components listed below, preferably in substantially the quantities listed below. It is preferred that the drug is sodium cromoglycate or 25 nedocromil sodium, most preferably sodium cromoglycate.

sorbitan tristearate or non-ionic emulsifying wax (Polawax NF) 1.3%  
glycerol monostearate 1.3%  
light liquid paraffin 6.6%

- white soft paraffin 3.3%
- isopropyl myristate 2.0%
- drug 4%
- disodium edetate 0.66%
- 5 amphoteric surfactant 1.3% (for example disodium coacamphodiacetate, which may be compounded with lauryl sulphate and hexylene glycol, for example Miracare 2MCA/E™)
- alkoxylated cetyl alcohol 0.66%
- triclosan 0.13%
- 10 benzyl alcohol 0.13%
- purified water to 100% (about 78.6%)

A further aspect of the invention is a stable oil-in-water emulsion comprising sodium cromoglycate, wherein when the emulsion is applied to skin an amount of sodium cromoglycate penetrates the skin that is sufficient to produce a demonstrable effect in the treatment of atopic dermatitis/eczema.

The amount of sodium cromoglycate that penetrates skin may be measured  
20 by techniques well known to those skilled in the art, some of which are mentioned above. Methods include *in vitro* measurements on skin biopsies (which may be human or animal, preferably rodent, still more preferably hairless rat skin) or *in vivo* measurements. For example, the presence of sodium cromoglycate in plasma or urine following topical  
25 application to a human or experimental animal (for example rat or rabbit) may be measured. Such measurements are described in Ishikura *et al* (1987) cited above, and Ariyanayagam *et al* (20). Sodium cromoglycate may be quantified by techniques of analytical chemistry, for example high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC).

Effectiveness of the emulsion may be measured in animal models of atopic dermatitis, or in clinical trials on humans, for example as described in Examples 3 to 6. Preferably it is measured in humans.

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Patients having atopic dermatitis may be diagnosed by criteria known to the skilled person. For example, patients may be diagnosed by a general medical practitioner recognising the effect of atopic eczema on the surface of the skin. Several sets of criteria for diagnosis have been proposed in order to assist in achieving consistency between studies of the condition (29) and Williams *et al* (1996) *B J Dermatol* 135, 12-17). The criteria discussed in Williams *et al* include: a history of an itchy skin plus three or more of : (i) a history of rash in the skin creases (folds of elbows, behind the knees, fronts of ankles or around the neck); (ii) a personal history of asthma or hay fever; (iii) a history of generally dry skin in the last year; (iv) onset under the age of 2; and (v) visible flexural dermatitis as defined by a photographic protocol.

The criteria by which an effect on atopic dermatitis may be judged are set out in reference 29.

It may be necessary to select patients on the basis of the level of circulating IgE. Suitable IgE tests include an *in vitro* total IgE test and an *in vitro* specific IgE test, for example the UniCAP Total (or Specific) IgE tests sold by Pharmacia & Upjohn, which use the Allergen ImmunoCAPs as the allergen reagent.

It may be desirable or necessary for patients to be screened according to their IgE levels before treatment with sodium cromoglycate is undertaken.

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More specifically, patients with total serum IgE levels below 150 iu/ml may be less likely to respond to the treatment. It is preferred that the patient is a child between the ages of 6 months and 10 years with atopic dermatitis.

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A further aspect of the invention is a method of treatment of a skin disease or condition wherein a drug is applied to the skin of an individual affected by the disease or condition in or with a formulation comprising alkoxylated cetyl alcohol and an amphoteric surfactant. The drug may be present in a formulation comprising the alkoxylated cetyl alcohol or it may be applied to skin before, after or at the same time as the said formulation, which may or may not comprise further amounts of the same or a different drug.

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It is preferred that the drug is a polar drug, as discussed above. The formulation may aid penetration of the drug, particularly a polar drug, through the skin by altering the nature of the barrier presented by the skin, as described above. It will however be appreciated that the drug may be a non-polar drug, for example a non-polar drug useful in the treatment of a skin disease or condition, for example a non-polar form of a corticosteroid, as found, for example, in creams prepared for topical application, for example in Betnovate™, Eumovate™ or Aureocort™ cream, as described further below. It is preferred that a non-polar drug, for example a non-polar form of a corticosteroid is applied to the skin before, after, or at the same time as the said formulation, preferably substantially immediately before or substantially immediately after the said formulation, most preferably, before or immediately before the said formulation. The formulation may form a film over the surface of the skin which is beneficial, for example in retaining moisture.

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Preferences for the said formulation are as for the compositions of the invention but it will be appreciated that the formulation may not comprise a polar drug if a drug is applied separately to the skin.

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It is preferred that the formulation comprises sodium cromoglycate or nedocromil sodium and/or a corticosteroid, for example a polar form of a corticosteroid such as a salt of an esterified corticosteroid, as described above. The drug may alternatively be an antibacterial agent, for example 10 an antibacterial agent that may be useful in treating acne, as described above.

A further aspect of the invention is the use of an alkoxylated cetyl alcohol 15 and an amphoteric surfactant in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a skin disease or condition. A drug, preferably a polar drug may further be used in the manufacture of the said medicament.

In the following aspects of the invention, it is preferred that the composition or emulsion of the invention comprises sodium cromoglycate 20 or nedocromil sodium and/or a corticosteroid, for example a polar form of a corticosteroid such as a salt of an esterified corticosteroid, as described above.

A further aspect of the invention is a method of treatment of a skin disease 25 or condition comprising applying a composition or emulsion of the invention to the skin of an individual affected by the disease or condition.

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A still further aspect of the invention is the use of a composition or emulsion of the invention in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a skin disease or condition.

- 5 It is preferred that the skin disease or condition is a disease of humans, but may also be one that affects other mammals, for example cats, dogs or horses. The disease or condition may be any in which skin mast cells and/or delayed (cellular) hypersensitivity reactions and/or inflammation is thought to be involved.

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It is preferred that the disease or condition is atopic dermatitis or eczema, but it may also be contact sensitivity, psoriasis, drug sensitivity reactions, aphous ulcers, Behçet's syndrome, pemphigus, urticaria, urticaria pigmentosa, pyroderma gangrenosum, chronic skin ulcers, ulcers associated with Crohn's disease, burns, insect stings/bites, herpetic infections, systemic sclerosis (systemic scleroderma), morphea (circumscribed or localised scleroderma) and dermal nodular fibrosis.

- 15 The skin disease or condition may be being, may have been or may be further treated by application of a corticosteroid. It may be beneficial to treat a patient, particularly a patient with atopic dermatitis or eczema, with a combination of a cromone and a corticosteroid. The therapeutic effects of a cromone such as sodium cromoglycate and corticosteroids may not be wholly interchangeable, as described in Altounyan & Howell (1969)  
20 "Treatment of asthma with disodium cromoglycate (FPL 670, "Intal")"  
*Respiration 26(suppl)*, 131-140 and in Altounyan (1979) *Proceedings of Allergy* (Pitman Medical). A minimum dose of corticosteroids may be necessary below which sodium cromoglycate is without clinical effect.  
25 Further, corticosteroids alone, even in high dosage, may not achieve the

same therapeutic response as a lower dose of corticosteroid together with sodium cromoglycate. Haider (5) suggests that sodium cromoglycate may exert a corticosteroid-sparing effect in atopic eczema or that there may be a synergism between the two.

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The cromone and corticosteroid may be presented in the same formulation or in separate formulations. The cromone and corticosteroid may be presented as separate formulations for topical application. Either or both formulations (if appropriate) may be a composition, for example an emulsion, of the invention. As described in Examples 3 and 4, a formulation comprising a corticosteroid may be applied before or after (preferably before) a formulation of the invention comprising a cromone, for example sodium cromoglycate. The corticosteroid may be in a polar or a non-polar form; preferably it is in a non-polar form if it is not presented in a composition of the invention. Suitable formulations comprising a non-polar corticosteroid include the proprietary formulations Betnovate RD (bethamethasone valerate, ready diluted), Aureocort (triamcinolone acetonide and chlortetracycline hydrochloride (an antibiotic)), and Eumovate (clobetasone butyrate). A 1% hydrocortisone preparation may also be used.

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It will be appreciated that bethamethasone valerate and triamcinolone acetonide may be considered to be potent corticosteroids, and clobetasone butyrate may be considered to be a moderately potent corticosteroid, as classified, for example, in Martindale, the Extra Pharmacopoeia, 31<sup>st</sup> Edition. Hydrocortisone may be considered to be a mild corticosteroid. It will be appreciated that the corticosteroid preparation used in combination with an emulsion of the invention comprising a cromone may be chosen depending upon the severity of the symptoms to be treated. A

stronger (for example, moderately potent or potent) corticosteroid may be used at the start of combination therapy, which may be replaced by a weaker (for example a mild or moderately potent) corticosteroid as the symptoms are brought under control. Thus, if the symptoms are 5 exacerbated, for example as the result of the patient contracting a cold, then a stronger corticosteroid may be used until the symptoms are diminished, whereupon a weaker corticosteroid may be used, as described in Example 3.

10 Symptoms that may be assessed include skin itching, sleep loss and skin condition, for example redness and the presence of sores or scabs.

15 The compositions or emulsions of the invention comprising sodium cromoglycate or nedocromil sodium, may also be useful in the treatment of sunburn or in sunscreen preparations. They may also be useful in cosmetic preparations, for example anti-ageing creams.

20 A further aspect of the invention is a method of treatment of a patient in need of a polar drug comprising applying a composition or emulsion of the invention comprising the said polar drug to the skin of the said patient. The polar drug may be or may comprise, for example, a polar anti-inflammatory or antirheumatic agent, for example ibuprofen; an 25 antibacterial agent, for example an agent that may be useful in the treatment of acne (for example clindomycin sodium phosphate or tetracycline); a hormone, for example an oestrogen; a polar analgesic, for example fentanyl; a polar motion-sickness treatment molecule, for example scopolamine or hyoscine; an antihypertensive, for example clonidine; a vasodilator or coronary vasodilator, for example nitroglycerine; or nicotine.

A still further aspect is the use of a composition or emulsion of the invention in a method of treating a patient in need of the said polar drug.

- 5      The patient in need of a polar drug may be, for example, a patient with arthritis that is in need of a polar anti-inflammatory or antirheumatic agent, for example ibuprofen. Alternatively, the patient in need of a polar drug may be a patient with acne that is in need of a polar antibacterial drug, for example clindomycin sodium phosphate or tetracycline. The  
10     patient in need of a polar drug may be a patient in need of nicotine, for example a patient who is attempting to give up cigarette smoking. Polar drugs that may be suitable for treating particular conditions when administered transdermally will be known to those skilled in the art.
- 15     The composition or emulsion may be packaged or presented in any convenient way. For example, it may be packaged in a tube, tub, bottle or pressurised aerosol, using techniques well known to those skilled in the art and as set out in reference works such as *Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences* 15th Ed, Mac Publishing. It is preferred that it is packaged in  
20     such a way as to minimise contact of the unused composition or emulsion with the environment, in order to minimise contamination of the composition or emulsion both before and after the container is opened. It is particularly preferred that the composition or emulsion is packaged in a pressurised aerosol container or in a plastic dispenser bottle. For  
25     example, an emulsion comprising sodium cromoglycate at either 4% or 8% w/v may be packaged in a plastic dispenser bottle, which may contain one month's supply (between about 150 and 300 ml).

It will be appreciated that the emulsion may have the appearance of a cream or a lotion, or of a foam.

The composition or emulsion may be applied topically to affected areas or

5 prophylactically to unaffected areas. The composition or emulsion may be applied as directed by a physician. For example, the affected area may be rubbed, for example for at least about 5 minutes, to apply the composition or emulsion, in order to encourage absorption of the drug. The composition or emulsion may be applied once or twice a day, or at greater 10 or lesser intervals, depending upon the needs of the patient, as determined by the patient or a physician. As described above, a composition or emulsion of the invention comprising a cromone may be applied after a formulation comprising a corticosteroid.

15 The invention will now be described by reference to the following, non-limiting, figures and examples.

**Figure 1:** Mean symptom score following treatment with corticosteroids  
and an emulsion comprising sodium cromoglycate. Details of the  
20 treatment are described in Example 3.

**Example 1: preparation of an oil-in-water emulsion comprising sodium cromoglycate**

25 The following substances are combined to form an emulsion. The percentages refer to percentages w/v of the final emulsion.

**Group A**

sorbitan tristearate or PolawaxNF 2.0%

	28
glycerol monostearate	2.0%
light liquid paraffin	10.0%
white soft paraffin	5.0%
isopropyl myristate	3.0%
5      benzyl alcohol	0.2%

Group B

	sodium cromoglycate	7.5%
	disodium edetate	0.1%
10	amphoteric surfactant	2.0% (for example disodium coacamphodiacetate, which may be compounded with lauryl sulphate and hexylene glycol, for example Miracare 2MCA/E™)
	alkoxylated cetyl alcohol	1.0%
	triclosan	0.2%
15	purified water	67.0%

The emulsion is prepared by heating the oils (compounds in group A) to about 70 °C, then adding them steadily to the water phase (compounds in Group B; also at or about 70 °C) with good stirring, and then allowing the emulsion to cool. The batch size may be between about 10 litres and about 500 litres or more. The emulsion is prepared using a high shear homogeniser, as known to those skilled in the art. The mixture is stirred as the ingredients are mixed and stirring should continue until the mixture cools to room temperature. Overstirring of the mixture does not appear to be detrimental. If the mixture is not stirred sufficiently, the emulsion may not form, or if it does form, may be unstable and may crack ie return to the component oil and water phases.

**Example 2: clinical trial of efficacy of the emulsion comprising sodium cromoglycate in the treatment of atopic dermatitis**

Patients for the clinical trial may be selected on the basis of a diagnosis of  
5 atopic dermatitis, or on the basis of a diagnosis of atopic dermatitis with total Serum IgE greater than 200 units/ml.

Patients may be of any age and may be children, for example aged 6 months to 5 years. Patients may have any level of severity of diagnosed  
10 atopic dermatitis, or may be selected on the basis of severity, for example those with mild or moderate disease only, those with active disease only (ie not disease in remission), those with severe disease only.

A suitable trial population may, for example, be children aged between 6 months and 5 years with total Serum IgE greater than 200 units/ml.

The clinical trial methodology will follow that recommended by the European Task Force on Atopic Dermatitis (29).

20 **Example 3: Effect of a composition of the invention on severity of skin symptoms caused by atopic dermatitis.**

The composition of the invention had the following composition:

25 Polawax NF 2.0%  
glycerol monostearate BP 2.0%  
light liquid paraffin BP 10.0%  
white soft paraffin BP 5.0%  
isopropyl myristate BPC 3.0%  
30 sodium cromoglycate 4.0%

30

disodium edetate BP 0.1%

Miranol 2.0%

Procetyl AWS 1.0%

triclosan 0.2%

5      benzyl alcohol BP 0.2%

Deionised water 70.5 %

The pH is adjusted to 6.0 using sodium dihydrogen orthophosphate.

10     **Background information**

Patient TR aged 3.5 years has suffered from severe atopic dermatitis since he was 3-5 weeks old. Treatment before using the composition of the invention was topical steroid applied two times per day. This had been applied for 3 years and was not effective.

15

**Treatment with the composition of the invention**

The patient began by applying Aureocort™ (triamcinolone acetonide [a potent corticosteroid] and chlortetracycline hydrochloride) and then the composition of the invention on top.

20

After 3 days Aureocort™ was replaced with a milder steroid (Eumovate™; clobetasone butyrate [a moderately potent corticosteroid]) and the symptoms continued to improve. On day 13 the order was changed so The composition of the invention was applied first and then Eumovate™, 25 but this was not found to be as effective and the skin became red and sore. On day 19 the application order was returned to Eumovate™ followed by the composition of the invention.

A copy of the original specification is filed herewith.

31

On day 25 the patient became ill with a cold that exacerbated his skin symptoms and on day 26 stopped using the composition of the invention for three days as it was causing a feeling of heat. Aureocort™ was used on its own for 2 days and then with the composition of the invention for a further 6 days until the skin was almost clear, when the use of Eumovate™ followed by the composition of the invention was recommenced.

Another cold on day 35 affected the patient's asthma but did not worsen the eczema or stop the patient using the composition of the invention.

10

8 weeks after the start of treatment the skin was almost clear and there were hardly any sores or scabs on the patient's body.

#### Recording of results

The condition of the skin, itching and sleep lost due to itching were recorded every day and measured on a scale of 0 to 3 where 3=severe, 2=moderate, 1=slight and 0=none.

#### Results

20 The results of the treatment have been plotted in the graph shown in Figure 1. It shows the mean score per week for each symptom.

25 The symptoms improved immediately and after 3 days, the patient could be moved on to a milder topical corticosteroid treatment. In week 2, the deterioration may be due to applying the corticosteroid treatment after the composition of the invention. This may have been further exacerbated in week 3 by a cold. In weeks 4 and 5 the condition was brought under control by a combination of the composition of the invention and a

32

stronger corticosteroid and in week 6 the patient returned to the milder corticosteroid in combination with the composition of the invention.

The symptoms continued to improve and the patient's skin became almost  
5 clear and very smooth, such that by week 7 there were hardly any sores or  
scabs on the patient's body.

Further measurements were made of the area affected, the corticosteroid  
cream usage and the mother's assessment of the patient's condition. The  
10 first two showed a significant reduction, and the mother considered there  
to be a "fabulous improvement".

Seven other named patients between the ages of 3 and 25 were treated  
with the composition of the invention. Initially, some patients were given  
15 a 7.5% foam-based formulation. This proved effective. A burning  
sensation was noted by some patients, especially on areas of broken skin.  
Later, patients were given a 4% solution presented as a formulation of the  
invention, in particular the formulation described above. This has  
improved the skin condition in all patients. A burning sensation was  
20 noticed in some cases. Patients successfully controlled using the  
composition of the invention are able to reduce or eliminate steroid use,  
and 5 out of 7 patients are continuing to use the composition of the  
invention on a routine basis.

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**Example 4: Tolerability and absorption studies.**

The studies are to assess the safety and tolerability of the composition of the invention described in Example 3, and to measure the systemic absorption of sodium cromoglycate. The formulations tested are those with 0%, 2%, 4% or 8% sodium cromoglycate.

The studies are double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, ascending dose studies.

10  
15  
20

Each subject receives only one of the above medication strengths which is applied topically twice daily for seven days to a pre-defined area on the forearms and abdomen. Thirty-six healthy volunteers are examined, at least four of which must be male and at least four of which must be female.

The subjects are dosed in three groups of 12 subjects each (nine to receive formulations comprising sodium cromoglycate and three to receive the formulation with no sodium cromoglycate). Seven days of treatment may be sufficient to reach steady state with this formulation.

The study formulation is administered by spreading evenly over the following areas: the volar aspects of both forearms and the abdomen. The study formulation is spread by the subject using two fingers of each hand.

Sufficient formulation is used to just cover the defined area. The subject does not wear gloves. The container of study formulation for each subject is weighed before dosing. The site where the formulation is administered is left uncovered for one hour and is then covered up. The container is reweighed following dosing in order to determine the mass of study

formulation remaining. The dosing procedure is repeated at 12 hour intervals. The drug is applied to the same three areas of skin on each occasion for seven days (a total of 14 doses administered).

- 5 The drug administration sites are assessed before and after application for Draize scale assessments and skin symptoms, including itch.

Urine is collected for assay of the 24 hours cumulative urinary excretion of unchanged cromoglycate ( $Ae_{0-24}$ ) on the seventh day of drug treatment.

- 10 Although systemic absorption is best assessed in terms of plasma or serum drug concentrations, a sensitive assay for measurement of the anticipated low drug levels of sodium cromoglycate is not generally available. Urinary recovery is therefore used as a means of assessing drug absorption.

15

Urine samples are assayed for unchanged cromoglycate by liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry (LC/MS). The limit of quantification is 0.05 mg/L.

- 20 Assessment of adverse events, skin related symptoms and Draize scale assessments are measured. Subjects are questioned regarding itch and other skin-related symptoms.

- 25 It is expected that the formulation is found to be well-tolerated and that absorption is below the level seen with inhaled sodium cromoglycate. Sodium cromoglycate has a reputation for being a very safe drug in clinical practice and is well documented. However, some adverse effects do occur. These are generally reported as transient, the main ones being

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headache, dizziness, local irritation of the target organ and an unpleasant taste in the mouth.

There are also some other effects that are dependent on the route of  
5 administration. Eye drops occasionally cause burning and stinging. Oral administration may cause nausea, skin rash and joint pain. Intra-nasal administration may cause epistaxis. For a topical formulation applied to the skin, irritation of the skin may cause a burning or stinging sensation.

10 Currently, the largest doses of sodium cromoglycate administered in clinical use are for asthma (20mg inhaled up to 8 times daily; maximum administered dose of 160mg, with 13-24 mg absorbed, given the bioavailability of 8-15%) and food allergy (up to 40 mg/kg/day orally; maximum administered dose of 2800 mg in a 70 kg man, with 28 mg absorbed given a bioavailability of 1%). The maximum dose for the present formulation is expected to be about 5 ml twice daily of an 8% sodium cromoglycate formulation. Thus the maximum administered topical daily dose is expected to be 800 mg. Topical bioavailability figures quoted in the literature are from 0.01 to 2.75%. This would mean that the  
15 maximum absorbed daily dose is expected to be 0.08 to 22 mg. The systemic dose is therefore expected to be below that achieved by other routes of administration.  
20

Absorption of sodium cromoglycate through the skin may be measured by  
25 measuring the presence of sodium cromoglycate in plasma or urine following topical application as described above or as described, for example, in Ishikura *et al* (1987) cited above or in Ariyanayagam *et al* (20), as mentioned above.

**Example 5: Phase II clinical trials**

Trial 1: a single centre double-blind placebo controlled randomised crossover study using a 4% composition of the invention as described in Example 3 as an adjunct to steroid treatment in children aged 1 to 7 years with atopic dermatitis. Treatment time will be 12 weeks following a 4-week run-in. Evaluation criteria will include any reduction in topical corticosteroid use, SCORAD assessment scores, acceptability of treatment and adverse events.

Subjects are determined to have atopic dermatitis by reference to the diagnostic criteria of Hanifin and Rajika (Hanifin (1982) "Atopic dermatitis" *J Am Acad Dermatol* 6, 1-13). The atopic dermatitis is of moderate to severe grade according to the grading system of Rajika and Langeland (Rajika & Langeland (1989) "Grading of the severity of atopic dermatitis" *Acta Derm Venerol* 144(suppl) 13-14). On entry to the double-blind (treatment) phase, the subjects have a SCORAD score of 25 or more.

The steroid treatment is with Betnovate RD™ (betamethasone valerate; a potent corticosteroid). This replaces any corticosteroid treatment previously used by the subject.

Diary cards are completed (by a parent) during the run-in and treatment phases. A urine sample is taken at the end of 12 weeks of test treatment in order to determine the absorption of sodium cromoglycate, as described in Example 4. The severity of itching and sleep disturbance due to atopic

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dermatitis are recorded twice daily. Global assessments of effectiveness and acceptability of the treatment are also made by the parent.

The order of application of the test lotion and the topical corticosteroid 5 may be specified: for example, the topical corticosteroid may be applied at least 15 minutes after applying the test lotion. The lotion is applied to the affected area of the skin twice daily.

Trial 2: a single centre double-blind placebo controlled randomised 10 crossover study to evaluate the acceptability, tolerability and effects of 3 days pretreatment with 2%, 4% and 8% compositions of the invention on the size of the skin wheal and flare response and itch caused by antigen challenge in volunteer allergic adults.

15 Kimata and Igarashi (1990) *Allergy* 45(3), 393-395 and Phillips *et al* (1996) *Allergy* 51(3), 198-199 have shown that topical sodium cromoglycate inhibits antigen induced wheal and flare reaction in the skin of human subjects. The results of the latter study indicated that a significant effect is observed only after pretreatment (in this case for 3 days) and not after a 20 single dose immediately preceding skin prick testing.

Sodium cromoglycate may have an effect on antigen mediated reactions in the skin of humans and that these effects are relevant to its potential clinical efficacy in conditions such as atopic dermatitis. Any clinical 25 effect is likely to be dependent upon the formulation used achieving good penetration of the skin in order to get to the relevant cells and receptors in the dermis. The demonstration of an inhibitory effect together with a reduction in the associated itching on use of a particular formulation may be supportive of the use of the formulation in paediatric atopic dermatitis

and may also provide useful data for the selection of the optimum concentration.

- 5 Subjects have a positive skin challenge test response to at least two common allergens, greater than or equal to that of the positive control and at least equal to 10 mm<sup>2</sup>. Allergens are selected from the following: grass, ragweed tree pollen, cat fur or house dust mite. Subjects undergo skin prick tests with antigens diluted to give mild to moderate wheal responses  
10 of 3-5 mm in diameter. Subjects are then allocated to receive in random order each of four treatments (2%, 4%, 8% sodium cromoglycate or placebo), to be applied four times a day for 3 days to one forearm. On day 4, following a final treatment application, subjects are re-challenged with antigen, and the areas of wheal and flare responses and level of  
15 itching are assessed after 15 minutes. Treatment periods are separated by washout periods of at least 4 days. Criteria for evaluation are the size of wheal and flare responses to allergen 15 minutes post challenge and the degree of itching at this time as assessed by the VAS scale.

20 **Example 6: Phase III clinical studies**

Two studies are performed as follows:

1)

- 25 250 patients with moderate to severe atopy.

Run-in on topical corticosteroid therapy for one month.

Randomised to placebo or active treatment for three months.

Disease modification, measured using standard parameters, and reduction in the amount of corticosteroid used are used to assess treatment efficacy.

A long-term open follow-up is carried out.

2)

5 250 patients with mild atopy.

Run-in on intermittent topical corticosteroid therapy for one month.

Randomised to placebo or active treatment for three months.

Disease modification, measured using standard parameters, is used to assess treatment efficacy.

10

A long-term open follow-up is carried out.

Results follow those seen in named patients, as summarised in Example 3.

An improvement in symptoms is seen, accompanied by reduced need for corticosteroid treatment. The treatment is well tolerated.

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CLAIMS

1. A composition comprising an amphoteric surfactant, an alkoxyolated  
5 cetyl alcohol and a polar drug.
2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the drug is an anionic  
drug.
- 10 3. A composition according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the amphoteric  
surfactant is a balanced amphoteric surfactant.
- 15 4. A composition according to any of the preceding claims wherein the  
alkoxyolated cetyl alcohol is Procetyl AWS.
5. A composition according to any of the preceding claims wherein the  
amphoteric surfactant comprises disodium coacoamphodiacetate.
- 20 6. A composition according to any of the preceding claims wherein the  
drug comprises sodium cromoglycate or nedocromil sodium.
7. A composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the drug  
comprises a corticosteroid or an antibacterial agent.
- 25 8. A composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the drug  
comprises an antirheumatic agent, nicotine or a hormone.
9. A composition according to claim 6 wherein the composition further  
comprises a corticosteroid.

10. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the composition comprises an aqueous phase and an oil phase.
- 5 11. A composition according to claim 10 wherein the composition is an oil-in-water emulsion.
12. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the composition is a foam.
- 10
13. A composition according to any of the preceding claims consisting substantially of:
- sorbitan tristearate or non-ionic emulsifying wax 0.5 to 5% w/v
- glycerol monostearate 0.5 to 5% w/v
- 15 light liquid paraffin 1 to 20% w/v
- white soft paraffin 1 to 10% w/v
- iso propyl myristate 0.5 to 5% w/v
- drug 0.1 to 20% w/v
- disodium edetate 0.01 to 1% w/v
- 20 amphoteric surfactant 0.1 to 10% w/v
- alkoxylated cetyl alcohol 0.1 to 10% w/v
- triclosan 0.01 to 1% w/v
- benzyl alcohol 0.01 to 1% w/v
- purified water to 100% v/v of the emulsion
- 25
14. A stable oil-in-water emulsion comprising sodium cromoglycate, wherein when the emulsion is applied to skin an amount of sodium cromoglycate penetrates the skin that is sufficient to produce a demonstrable effect in the treatment of atopic dermatitis/eczema.

15. A method of treatment of a skin disease or condition wherein a drug  
is applied to the skin of an individual affected by the disease or condition  
in or with a formulation comprising alkoxylated cetyl alcohol and an  
5 amphoteric surfactant.

16. Use of an alkoxylated cetyl alcohol and an amphoteric surfactant in  
the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a skin disease or  
condition.

10

17. A method of treatment of a skin disease or condition comprising  
applying a composition or emulsion according to any one of claims 1 to 14  
to the skin of an individual affected by the disease or condition.

15

18. Use of a composition or emulsion according to any one of claims 1 to  
14 in a method of treating a skin disease or condition.

20

19. Use of a composition or emulsion according to any one of claims 1 to  
14 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a skin disease  
or condition.

25

20. Use according to claim 18 or 19 wherein the disease or condition is  
one in which skin mast cells and/or delayed (cellular) hypersensitivity  
reactions and/or inflammation is thought to be involved.

21. Use according to any one of claims 18 to 20 in which the disease or  
condition is atopic dermatitis or eczema, contact sensitivity, psoriasis,  
drug sensitivity reactions, aphous ulcers, Behcet's syndrome, pemphigus,  
urticaria, urticaria pigmentosa, pyroderma gangrenosum, chronic skin

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ulcers, ulcers associated with Crohn's disease, burns, insect stings/bites, herpetic infections, systemic sclerosis (systemic scleroderma), morphoea (circumscribed or localised scleroderma), dermal nodular fibrosis or sunburn.

5

22. The use according to claim 16, 18 to 21 or method according to claim 15 or 17 wherein the skin disease or condition is, has been or will be further treated by application of a corticosteroid.

10 23. A method of treatment of a patient in need of a polar drug comprising applying a composition or emulsion according to any one of claims 1 to 13 comprising the said polar drug to the skin of the said patient.

15 24. The use of a composition or emulsion according to any one of claims 1 to 13 in a method of treating a patient in need of the said polar drug.

25. The method of claim 23 or use of claim 24 wherein the said patient is a patient with arthritis and wherein the said polar drug is a polar anti-inflammatory or antirheumatic agent.

20

26. The method of claim 23 or use of claim 24 wherein the said patient is a patient with acne and wherein the said polar drug is a polar antibacterial drug.

25 27. The method of claim 23 or use of claim 24 wherein the said patient is a patient in need of nicotine and wherein the said polar drug is nicotine.

28. The composition or emulsion of any one of claims 1 to 14 packaged in a tube, tub, bottle or pressurised aerosol container.

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29. A composition or emulsion according to any one of claims 1 to 14 for use in medicine.
- 5 30. A composition, method or use according to any of claims 1 to 13 or 15 to 29 (when dependent on claims 1 to 13), wherein the alkoxyLATED cetyl alcohol is polypropoxylated cetyl alcohol.

AMENDED SHEET

Effect of an emulsion comprising sodium cromoglycate on severity of skin symptoms caused by atopic dermatitis

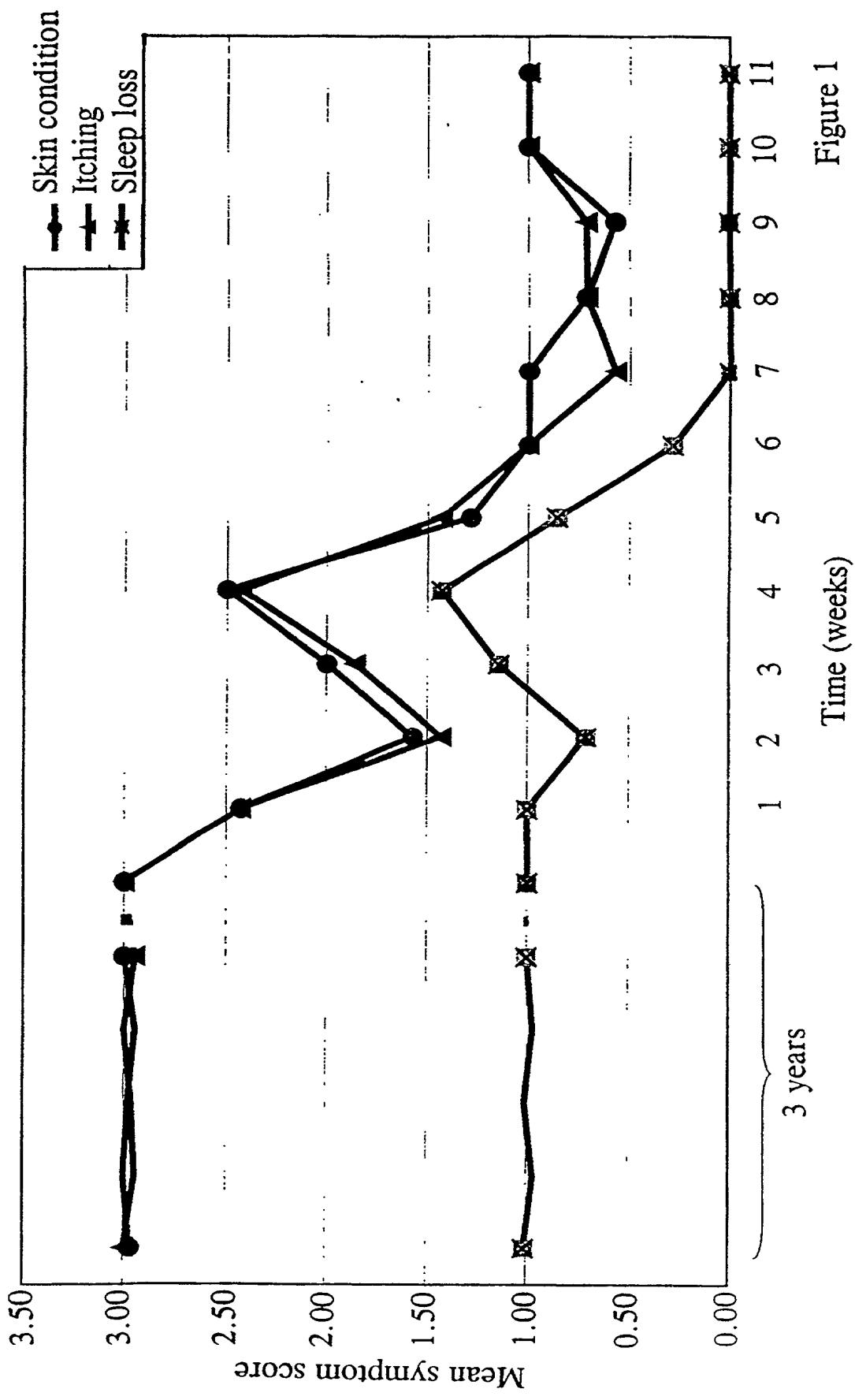


Figure 1



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PTO/SB/01 (12-97)

Approved for use through 9/30/00. OMB 0651-0032

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## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)
PCT/GB99/01600	05/20/1999	

Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:  Customer Number  →  Place Customer Number Bar Code Label here  
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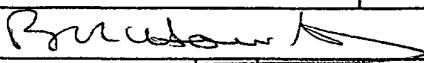
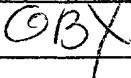
Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number

Additional registered practitioner(s) named on supplemental Registered Practitioner Information sheet PTO/SB/02C attached hereto.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of Sole or First Inventor:	<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor			
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<input type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors are being named on the _____ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto				